

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A method, comprising:

displaying a graphical user interface that allows a user to select, from a representation of a network that is presented on a graphical user interface, a first connection source endpoint that is associated with a first access node of the network and a second connection endpoint that is associated with a second access node of the network destination from a topology of a network that is presented on the graphical user interface;

executing a routing algorithm to determine a path through the network amongst a plurality of possible paths through the network, the path and the possible paths each having connecting the first connection source endpoint and the second connection destination as endpoints; and,

provisioning a connection within the network that corresponds to the path, the provisioning comprising updating information held within a node that resides within the network and that resides along the path.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~said~~ the executing a routing algorithm further comprises executing a distributed routing algorithm within nodes of the network.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2 wherein ~~said~~ the executing a distributed routing algorithm further comprises sending topology information from a first node to a second node within the network.
4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2 wherein ~~said~~ the executing a distributed routing algorithm further comprises sending bandwidth resource information from a first node to a second node within the network.
5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2 wherein ~~said~~ the executing a distributed routing algorithm further comprises sending Quality of Service (QoS) information from a first node to a second node within the network.
6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~said~~ the executing a routing algorithm further comprises executing the routing algorithm at a network control management system that is coupled to the network.
7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the graphical user interface allows the user to ~~select~~ choose a bandwidth for the connection.
8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the graphical user interface allows the user to ~~select~~ choose at least one Quality of Service (QoS) parameter for the connection.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8 wherein the at least one QOS parameter further comprises end-to-end transit delay for the connection.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8 wherein the at least one QoS parameter further comprises jitter.

11. (Currently amended) A machine readable medium having instructions stored thereon that when executed by one or more processors cause the one or more processors to perform a method, the method comprising,:

displaying a graphical user interface that allows a user to select, from a representation of a network that is displayed on the graphical user interface, a first connection source endpoint that is associated with a first access node of the network and a second connection destination endpoint that is associated with a second access node of the network~~from a topology of a network that is displayed on the graphical user interface~~; and,

causing a routing algorithm to be executed and a connection to be provisioned, the routing algorithm being executed to determine a path through the network amongst a plurality of possible paths through the network, the path and the possible paths each having connecting the first connection source endpoint and the second connection destination as endpoints, the connection being provisioned within the network by updating information within a node that resides within the network and that resides along the path, the connection corresponding to the path.

12. (Previously presented) The machine readable medium of claim 11

wherein the routing algorithm is a distributed routing algorithm.

13. (Previously presented) The machine readable medium of claim 12

wherein the distributed routing algorithm is designed to send topology information from a first node to a second node within the network.

14. (Previously presented) The machine readable medium of claim 12

wherein the distributed routing algorithm is designed to send bandwidth resource information from a first node to a second node within the network.

15. (Previously presented) The machine readable medium of claim 12

wherein the distributed routing algorithm is designed to send Quality of Service (Qos) information from a first node to a second node within the network.

16. (Previously presented) The machine readable medium of claim 11 further

comprising instructions which when executed cause the one or more processors to execute the routing algorithm at a network control management system coupled to the network.

17. (Currently amended) The machine readable medium of claim 11 wherein the graphical user interface allows the user to ~~select~~ choose a bandwidth for the connection.

18. (Currently amended) The machine readable medium of claim 17 wherein the graphical user interface allows the user to ~~select~~ choose at least one Quality of Service (QoS) parameter for the connection.

19. (Previously presented) The machine readable medium of claim 18 wherein the at least one QOS parameter further comprises end-to-end transit delay for the connection.

20. (Previously presented) The machine readable medium of claim 18 wherein the at least one QoS parameter further comprises jitter.

COMMENTS

The enclosed is responsive to the Examiner's Final Office Action mailed on March 1, 2005. At the time the Examiner mailed the Office Action claims 1-20 were pending. By way of the present response the Applicant has: 1) amended claims 1-8, 11, 17 and 18; and, 2) has not added nor canceled any claims. As such claims 1 - 20 remain pending. The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application, pursuant to a filing a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) as provided under 37 CFR 1.114, and the allowance of all claims.

In a phone conversation held with the Examiner on June 3, 2005, the Applicant highlighted to the Examiner what the Applicant felt was the most pertinent perspective with respect to the Applicant's position that the independent claims of the present application are allowable. That perspective is as follows.

The Applicant believes that: 1) the representation of a network on a graphical user interface is probably in the prior art; 2) that the execution of a routing algorithm is certainly within the prior art; and, 3) that the provisioning of a connection within a network is certainly within the prior art.

Assuming for argument's sake that 1) above is within the prior art, the Applicant nevertheless contends that the Applicant's independent claims are allowable because what is not known to be in the prior art is: 1) the selection of a connection's endpoints from a graphical user interface; and, 2) the provisioning of the connection in a network as a consequence of the selection, where, the connection's path is determined through the execution of a routing algorithm. That is, even though basic processes of the claimed invention may very well be in the prior art individually, their

integration together as claimed is not known to be in the prior art either implicitly or explicitly.

The Examiner stated that a new prior art search would be conducted in light of this information and that the prosecution of the present application would proceed forward.

Turning to the substantive rejection maintained by the Examiner in the 3/1/05 Action (that the Applicant's independent claims are anticipated by the Iwamura reference), the Applicant responds similarly to the response filed by the Applicant on April 26, 2004: it is impossible for the Iwamura reference to anticipate the Applicant's independent claims because the Iwamura reference does not contemplate the execution of a routing algorithm. Therefore the Applicant's independent claims are allowable over the Iwamura reference.

Because the Applicant has demonstrated the patentability of all pending independent claims, the Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are allowable. The Applicant's silence with respect to the dependent claims should not be construed as an admission by the Applicant that the Applicant is complicit with the Examiner's rejection of these claims. Because the Applicant has demonstrated the patentability of the independent claims, the Applicant need not substantively address the theories of rejection applied to the dependent claims.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would in any way expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Robert B. O'Rourke at (408) 720-8300.

Respectfully submitted,

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